

REGENERATION AND LIVEABILITY PORTFOLIO

DECISION RECORD

20 November 2007

The meeting commenced at 10 am in the Mayor's Office,
Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

The Mayor (Stuart Drummond)

Officers: Ralph Harrison, Head of Public Protection
 Sarah Scarr, Landscape Planning & Conservation Manager
 Peter Scott, Director of Regeneration & Planning
 Jeff Mason, Head of Support Services, Regeneration & Planning
 Angela Hunter, Principal Democratic Services Officer
 Sarah Bird, Democratic Services Officer

21. Headland Conservation Area Appraisal *(Director of Regeneration and Planning Services)*

Type of decision

Non key.

Purpose of report

To inform the Portfolio holder of the findings of the recent appraisal of the Headland conservation area.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The document considers the location and setting of the Headland and examines how the area sits within rest of the Tees Valley area, and its current physical character.

The area was analysed in detail and the final document comprises survey information by the consultants and feedback from public consultation with residents. The report provides eight suggestions for future actions within

the area including boundary changes and the use of modern materials on buildings within the conservation area. Concerns had been raised about lack of information about the conservation area, listed buildings and Article 4 Directions and the implications of these on property owners. Recommendations to alleviate this were put forward as well as suggestions for current derelict buildings, investment in street furniture and options for easing traffic flow.

The report proposed that a Conservation Area Advisory Committee (CAAC) is established on the Headland as soon as possible although its precise remit and composition is yet to be finalised and will be brought back to the Portfolio Holder for agreement.

There has been public support for the use of modern materials and this will be discussed by the Planning Working Party which will submit a report for comment to the Portfolio Holder when a clear indication of a proposed policy guideline has been developed and which would in turn be reporting to the Planning Committee who will finally agree to any proposals.

Decision

1. That the Portfolio Holder note the report and recommendations of the final Headland Conservation Area Appraisal document.
2. That the Portfolio Holder agreed formal consultation on the proposed boundary amendment to the Headland Conservation Area to include the Heugh Breakwater.

22. Update on Current Outbreaks of Foot & Mouth and Bluetongue Diseases *(Head of Public Protection)*

Type of decision

Non Key.

Purpose of report

To update the Portfolio Holder in relation to the Local Authority's role in relation to the management of the current outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease and Bluetongue.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The movement controls imposed as a result of the recent Foot and Mouth Disease and Bluetongue outbreaks have not significantly impacted upon the

work of the department. If as expected new cases of Bluetongue are confirmed, it is possible that the Bluetongue Control Zones may be extended further to include Hartlepool. This will place some additional demands upon the service as additional movement restrictions would be introduced and have to be enforced.

Since confirmation of the Bluetongue outbreak, movement restrictions have been in place since 29 September 2007, and any cases of illegal moves may justify enforcement action as by now animal keepers should be aware of such restrictions.

Foot and Mouth restrictions have now been lifted but it is likely that Bluetongue will continue to spread which may have resource implications on the Authority. It was noted that similar issues are in place for the Bird Flu disease as reported to Cabinet in May 2006 but so far there has been no local interest although there is a press strategy in place should it be required.

The Portfolio Holder indicated he fully supported any action necessary to comply with the disease control measures.

Decision

That the report be noted.

23. North Hartlepool Partnership – Single Regeneration Budget Final Evaluation (*Head of Regeneration*)

Type of decision

Non key.

Purpose of report

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the key findings and outcomes of the final Evaluation Report of the North Hartlepool Partnership Single Regeneration Budget (SRB) programme.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

The final evaluation report was produced by the Tourism and Planning Practice. The evaluation looks at the performance of the SRB programme on a number of levels and details achievements gained over the past ten years. The £25.4 million SRB fund helped to lever in a further £33.5 million from private and public sector sources. Headline achievements included jobs created, achievement of qualifications, people entering self employment, new businesses set up, housing improvements and security, NHP funded community safety initiatives, young people attending crime

prevention initiatives, people accessing new sports opportunities as well as community and voluntary organisations supported. Major physical developments achieved from the Budget were outlined also in the report such as housing improvements, the Town Square and the Borough Hall complex. Although overall levels of deprivation remain high, there has been significant success in a number of areas and these were outlined in the report.

The ongoing challenges of the Headland are being addressed at a number of levels as part of Hartlepool Quays and the area is identified as a regeneration priority in the Regional spatial Strategy and the Regional Economic Strategy and in bids to the Single Programme. The importance of the Victoria harbour proposals was also discussed and the Neighbourhood Action Plan prepared for the Headland in 2006 has identified residents and service providers' priorities for community investment.

Details of the Headland Marketing Steering Group involving most of the key groups concerned with the development and promotion of tourism activities on the Headland were given and the Council's Tourism Team provide support to this group.

The Portfolio holder expressed his approval as it appears that the community has taken the improvements on board. Ward members have asked for discussion on future strategy. Funding is now in the hands of One North East and we must continue to ensure that it is still available.

Decision

That the report be noted.

24. Regeneration and Planning Services Departmental Plan 2007/08 – Quarter 2 Monitoring Report (*Director of Regeneration and Planning*)

Type of decision

Non key.

Purpose of report

To inform the Portfolio Holder of the progress made against the Regeneration and Planning Services Departmental Plan 2007/08 in the second quarter of the year.

Issue(s) for consideration by Portfolio Holder

A total of 51 actions have been achieved and a further 103 are assessed as being on target for completion by the milestone date. However 9 of the actions are described as not being on target but it is expected that most will be completed within the financial year. The adoption of the Community Strategy is however now not expected to take place until 2008/9 but it was confirmed that there was no target set by Government Office North East and there would be no penalties incurred by this time delay.

Two Performance Indicators, the number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System and the percentage of planning appeals allowed against the authority's decision to refuse planning permission are unlikely to hit targets and the reasons were outlined. The portfolio holder expressed concern about the planning appeal decision indicator and requested details of the potential financial impact on the authority from the appeals being allowed. It was suggested that establishing new training protocols for those involved may contribute to an improvement in performance in future.

Decision

That the progress against the key actions and the first half year outturn of the performance indicators be noted.

J A BROWN

CHIEF SOLICITOR

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